IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: : 10/822,272 Confirmation No. 2174

Applicant: : D'Elena, et. al. Filed: : April 8, 2004

Group Art Unit: : 4143

Examiner: : Fleischer, Mark A.

Docket No. : END920040009US1

Customer No. : 40412

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action having a mailing date of September 2, 2008, with a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 2, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments made in this Response for Continued Examination (RCE):

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12.